

VI FLASH

Congrats!

July 2003

To all the 4600 Marines that were promoted to their present rank on the 1st of August!

Hot Topics This Month:

MOS Manual Change:

IMU proposes a new "Best Of" compilation of 4600 Marine talents.

Image and Caption of the Month



The helmet of a Marine from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) fighting in Iraq serves as a reminder of how long the unit has been away from home. Cpl. Jeff Sisto 030406-M-3022S-001 (Released)

Marine Corps Combat Development Command Materiel Requirements Division

**CW03 John Crone
Audiovisual Requirements Officer**

On the Horizon:

Tactical Imagery Production System

The TIPS Statement of Need (SON) has been re-written to reflect the name change from the previous Combat Camera Imagery System (CCIS) and changes to the allocations for each system. We are currently awaiting final signature from the ACMC for the Approved Acquisition Objective (AAO) recommendation resulting from the last Marine Requirements Oversight Council (MROC) meeting. The system will be briefed to the Command Element Advocacy Board on 7 August. This board, chaired by LtGen Hanlon, will receive briefs for all CE requirements that will compete for POM 06 funding. Once the briefs are complete the board will prioritize all requirements as Mission Critical, Mission Essential, Valid, or Insignificant.

Deployable Tactical Printing and Reproduction Capability

The UNS submitted by Maj. Core for a Deployable Tactical Printing & Reproduction Capability (DTPRC) was entered into the system at MCCDC on 1 July. The UNS for the modification and improvement to the Reproduction Equipment Set (RES) is scheduled for the next DOTMLPF Working Group (DWG) that will be held on 13 August. This UNS addresses the need to transition to newer technology in the equipment contained in the reproduction facility as well as reducing footprint. It also addresses the issue of where the capability should be located such as the FSSG. I&L is the advocate for this requirement. The DTPRC will become part of the Advocate Requirement List (ARL) for POM 06 once I have a draft Initial Capabilities Document (ICD). I will be briefing this requirement to the I&L advocacy board in August.

4600 Database

The 4600 Database requirement will be briefed to the Command Element Advocacy Board (CEAB) as described above 7 August here in Quantico. This board is where the advocate receives briefings for all candidates for POM 06. The board will then finalize and prioritize its list of candidates to be added to the ARL.

Digital Television

The DTV UNS has worked its way through the system and is now an official requirement with a Solution Planning Directive (SPD) that was signed by CG MCCDC on 14 July. I am currently drafting an Integrated Products Team (IPT) charter assignment letter that will be sent out by next week. The goal of the IPT is to have a completed draft Initial Capabilities Document (ICD) in staffing by 1 Sep, as this will compete for POM 06 funding. This will also be placed on the I&L Advocate Requirement List (ARL).

COMCAM Conference

I will be attending the Combat Camera conference to be held 25-29 August in Palm Springs. At this time I will be educating the ComCam community on recent changes to the combat development process with the recent release of the CJCSI 3170. I will also be updating the community on the status of several programs that are in the Combat Development Tracking System (CDTS) relating to ComCam and the VI community.

NEWS FROM THE FLEET

Submitted by 3rd MarDiv COMCAM, Okinawa, Japan

EXERCISE COOPERATION FROM THE SEA

030628-030711

Story by: PFC Sarah A. Beavers



On June 28th, 2003 aboard the USS Fort McHenry a Combat Camera Marine was attached to the Combat Assault Battalion, Headquarters and Support Company; 3rd Marine Division, Okinawa, Japan. My mission was to document exercise Cooperation from the Sea, which took place at Vladivostok, Russia. The purpose of this exercise was to give United

States Marines and Sailors the opportunity to develop and improve international relations between the United States Armed Forces and their Russian Military counterparts.

While aboard the USS Fort McHenry, en route to and from Vladivostok, Russia, Marines were involved in sustainment training for the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program. They trained in live fire exercises, utilizing the M-4 assault rifle under the supervision of 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, Bravo Company, 3rd Marine Division, Okinawa, Japan. While aboard, the Marines swam inside the flooded well deck and participated in drills to simulate disorientation and teach them how to utilize the emergency Egress Breathing Device (oxygen equipment).

After arriving in Vladivostok, Russia, the Marines participated in multiple static displays, to include those held for the Russian Military Sailors and orphan children. They also played in a basketball/ volleyball competition against their Russian Sailor counterparts. Then took a tour of a Russian host ship. The Marines and Sailors hosted a Barbeque on the USS Fort McHenry while at the pier in Vladivostok for the Russian Military, interpreters, and others involved during the four-day port visit. While there the Marines and Sailors were given time to experience the Russian culture.



I used the Kodak DCS 720 SLR digital camera to capture imagery during Exercise Cooperation from the Sea. This was my first deployment, and I was ecstatic to receive orders for this mission. While being attached to the Combat Assault Battalion in Vladivostok, Russia, it was inspiring to watch how well the United States Armed Forces, both Marine and Sailor alike, interacted with the Russians (civilian and military). The weather was significantly different that on Okinawa, where temperatures range in the

80-90 degrees Fahrenheit. While in Vladivostok I experienced freezing rain upon entering the port.

I was in a country post communist rule (still recovering), during the Fourth of July, a celebration of freedom in America. I found this deployment to be, not only a great opportunity from a photographic standpoint, but also as an opportunity to be an ambassador to a country that never ceased to intrigue and fascinate me during my deployment there.



Visual Information Training:

CWO3 Joseph Sanders, Visual Information Training Officer

DINFOS Issues:

Major Core, CWO4 Golwitzer, SSgt Hamilton and I met a few weeks ago to discuss the future of Training at DINFOS and DMS. An initiative is being considered by us to move the 4612 training from DMS to DINFOS per requirements in DoD Policy. A point paper is under development for Training and Education Command's review. More to follow...

Training Requirements:

I've heard rumors and read e-mails about training issues, specifically Caption Writing, but I've seen no deficiency report. We (DINFOS) want to correct training deficiencies in order to support you better. I can do this if you officially identify these requirements via a Universal Needs Statement (UNS) and staff it through your chain of command to MCCDC, TECOM. Training is one of the items addressed by a UNS. Use the system and we can better the training for Occupational Field 46. Make sure you use our Doctrine and Policy to support your arguments. Remember – the UNS can identify deficiencies in what we do and what we are not doing. If you think we need to train certain tasks that we don't today, justify it and forward it up the chain.

DINFOS Website:

We have recently update the DINFOS website. If you have any comments or suggestions, just let me know. I'll pass them on to our Webmaster. The address is www.dinfos.osd.mil.

Marine Detachment Fort Meade:

Visit and bookmark the MARDET website for information about our Marines and on attending courses at DINFOS. www.tecom.usmc.mil/dinfos.

Ph: 301-677-3246 (DSN 622)

Fax: 301-677-4290

sandersj@dinfos.osd.mil

Semper Fidelis!

"You are either in contact, moving to contact or training", LtCol Chips Catalone, MCRP 3-0A

Marine Corps Systems Command

VIS Team Leader: CWO4 W.H. Golwitzer

Greetings,

In an effort to keep the Occupational Field updated we will be sending out periodic emails to keep you abreast of acquisition and procurement efforts. We will not be consolidating on a monthly basis, but will send information out as we get it. You may want to keep these emails for future reference and refer to them as required.

VIS has completed the fielding of the two Tactical Imagery Production Systems (TAMCN C71107G) to 1st and 2nd Marine Divisions. 1st Marine Divisions system was delivered in Kuwait in March and 2nd Marine Divisions was fielded in April at Camp Lejeune.

MARCORSYSCOM conducted a Field Users Test (FUT) on the system at 2nd Marine Division, which included one week of training, and a 4 day field exercise. The data collected from this evolution is currently being compiled at MARCORSYSCOM and will be used to justify our efforts in POM 2006, which will be briefed in January 2004. As it stands today we are asking for 12 systems, which will be fielded, to the following units:

1st Mar Div	MARFORRES	1st MAW	1st FSSG
2nd Mar Div	MARFORPAC	2 ^D MAW	2nd FSSG
3rd Mar Div	DINFOS	3D MAW	2nd FSSG

The Field Users Test (FUT) has yielded a tremendous amount of data, and we have already begun fixing shortfalls and fielding fixes as funding permits.

In an effort to better perform our mission at VIS we have reorganized. Keep this info for your records:

CWO4 Golwitzer: AV Collateral Equipment (MILCON)
SSgt Maynard: PA Systems and Reproduction Equipment Set
SSgt Frank: Tactical Imagery Production System and Combat Still and Video Acquisition Systems.

1st Marine Division has taken several camera losses during IFF and MARCORSYSCOM is currently in the process of fielding the division new cameras. We have requested a substantial amount of funding for the still systems so we can begin transitioning to the new Canon 10D platform. As it stand today we will continue to use the PD-150 Sony video camera until industry can produce a smaller, handheld, HD camera system. We anticipate that this HD camera will be coming to market in 2004/2005.

TMDE Survey: TMDE has re-launched it survey again. We do this in order to keep our data current and measure our successes and failures. This survey is for all 4600 Marines. Please take the time to complete the survey. Word of caution: the last survey had a few responses that contained foul language. Please refrain from using this language when completing this survey as Senior Officers and Civilians view this data and responses. Here is the website:

<http://www.stiltmart.com/survey>

Hats Off to 2nd Marine Division for their efforts in the Field Users Test (FUT) in April 2003. Their dedication and can-do-sprit made this event a success and will help to make the TIPS a much better system in the future.

Notes from the OCCFLD 46 Specialist

Warrant Officer G.E. Lollar

Forward Staffing of the 05/10 TO/CR

Since this is my first issue of the VI Flash, let me first say how excited I am to represent you all as your 4600 OCCFLD specialist. With the wheels in motion for our reengineering plan, it's our intent to make the transition as painless as possible. Although we hated to see Capt Smith leave, we wish he and his family the richest of success in his future plans.

Since the latest officer moves are underway and some already complete, a lot of questions have recently come up regarding personnel with the future, and present, TO. I hope to better explain the "intent" of the forward staffing initiative IOT better answer some of those questions.

As a result of the reductions mandated by the Active Duty Force Structure Review Group (ADFRG), you all know we initiated our reengineering plan and it was approved in FY02 shifting manpower to a percentage majority in the Operational Forces (OPFOR).

A meeting was conducted with VIM, Total Force Structure (TFS), and our monitor and it was agreed to forward staff to the 05/10 beginning in the summer of FY03 and ending in FY05. The forward staffing of "moves of opportunity" would be executed by a three-tiered approach, beginning with the officer community. These moves are already in motion with Major Hoard transferring to MARFORPAC, and Captains Lujan, Reid and Thompson executing orders to the respective MEFs as phase 1.

Phase two consists of FY04 staffing of senior SNCOs. These moves will be coordinated based on time on station and other manpower criteria. Additionally, it will facilitate the transition of Visual Information Chief's (4691) to key billets within certain OPFORs, i.e. Wing and FSSG Combat Camera Units later in FY04. A good example is the GySgt assignments on the MEU. So, if you're a GySgt and interested, contact MSgt Mattocks and let him know your ready to go.

Phase three will begin in FY04 and FY05 with the remaining SNCO assignments. In addition, Marines that are due PCS orders in their normal rotation will execute orders consistent with the reengineering plan.

MOS Manual Changes

MCO P1200.7 was signed on 17 July 03 making all GySgt's 4691, Visual Information Chief's effective in FY04. This is a great change as MSgt Mattocks illustrates below.

IMU looks to the Future

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome *Mr. Weatherington* as our newest Civilian Marine in charge of our Imagery Management Unit. I know many of you have worked with him in the past and are aware of what he brings to the table as far as leadership and "can-do" attitude. I personally look forward in seeing this section continue to grow as our premier imagery management organization for the Marine Corps.

With that, I would like to encourage as much participation as possible with regard to the upcoming "Best Of" CD. The end state will hopefully be a yearly Marine Corps awards program that will better enable VIM to market the great work of our Marines. IMU really needs your assistance in getting their pilot program off of the ground by gaining volunteers from our field in judging this years submissions. These individuals will also assist in designing the program from the ground up. Funding will be provided, so if you're interested, please inform Mr. Weatherington.

Info From the Enlisted OCCFLD 46 Specialist **Master Sergeant Vonzell Mattocks**

Greetings VI Marines,

As your Enlisted OCCFLD Specialist I would like to sincerely thank the VI community for your support. I have noticed, by the questions being asked and the proactive initiative of 4600 Marines, that our "Marine Corps' Core Values" are definitely ingrained in our MOS. The VI Community has embraced change in a great way. Here's this months scoop:

1. To this date we still have (1) **4611 Combat Illustrator**, boatspaces left for fiscal year (FY03). There are several Marines in other MOSs submitting portfolios to re-enlist (lat-move) into this MOS.
2. Additionally, **FY04** Marines are submitting **re-enlistment** packages as of **1 July 03**.
3. **USMC Imagery Awards Program** initiatives have begun! Our Imagery Management Unit has a "**Best of CD**" contest. Be sure to review the article in this month's VI Flash. I can't emphasize how important it will be to participate.

4. The **Annual FY04 Occupational Field 46 Formal School Call-up** message was released. Ensure your career intentions are expressed with your motivated Officers and SNCO to submit.

5. **“Know your Job!”** The future of SNCOs, next year— Fiscal year 2005 (Oct 04) All Gunnery Sergeants will be re-designated as Visual Information Chief's (4691) and the following year all 4600 Staff Sergeant will feed into the Visual Information Chief (4691). The significance of young Marines cross-training and integrating the CVIC digital multimedia capabilities supports the technological future. Prepare to assume increased responsibility as VI Chiefs, while maintaining your technical expertise. Our Staff Non-Commissioned Officers will require formal schooling to maximize this transition. SSgts should attend the Visual Information Managers course and GySgts should attend the Visual Information Officers Course (VIOC) until we have our own VI Chiefs Course.

*****VI Officers and VI Chiefs*****

6. Reminder, the VI Chiefs Conference goes FY04 (28-30 Jan04). This is where your senior SNCOs are reinvigorated with camaraderie and information. For example, in addition to agenda items, we will discuss process for: VI Chiefs (4691) and Combat Camera Chiefs (4691) in Policy, Requirements, Equipment, Schools, Funding, Systems and Software, Personnel Management, and Public Relations and Communication. **Please send all agenda items to MSgt Mattocks. Request TAD funding from your comptroller today!**

7. **Stay connected!** Stay in contact with your VI Community, be sure to read the VI Flash, monitor the VIM web site, and utilize Marine online.

Lastly, I want to emphasize, **“Manage Your Careers!”** Plan a year in advance your future geographic location, Special duties, formal school, and Officer Programs. This works best when you seek the guidance of your Officers and Staff Non-Commissioned Officers. Believe it or not, your input is one of the variables considered in your next assignment. However, the Marine Corp's needs will have the final say and once orders are generated, **“Execute!”**

Proud to serve,
MSgt Vonzell A. Mattocks

News From IMU

Submitted by SSgt Smith: SNCOIC, Imagery Management Unit

- IMU is coordinating creation of Marine Corps imagery awards program and best of CD. The overall intent is to establish a yearly awards program that will encourage imagery submissions from our bases and stations and showcase the talents of our motivated Marines.
- Need submission of operational and garrison still, video and illustration imagery for CD.
- Submission dates are 1 – 31 August.
- Imagery will be judged at IMU and awards program created to recognize outstanding achievement in imagery acquisition, creation and manipulation.
- Volunteers to judge imagery are requested by August 1st per following guidelines:
 - o At least 10 years experience in MOS
 - o Need judges from all MOS: 4611/4612/4641/4671
 - o Prefer Senior GySgt or Junior MSgt for judging
 - o SME funds will be provided for judge's attendance at IMU for 5 days.
- Judging will be on following basic criteria:
 - o Composition – to include exposure, framing, lighting, selective focus etc.
 - o Editing / manipulation
 - o Storytelling
 - o Based on DOD style guide and MILPHOG, MILVID, and MILGRAPH competitions
- POC for judge volunteers:
 - o Mr. Marion Weatherington at weatheringtonme@tecom.usmc.mil
 - o SSgt Smith at smithmj@tecom.usmc.mil
 - o DSN 278-2963, COM 703-784-2963

News from MCCSSS

Submitted by Ms. Debbie Pearson: Director, Instructional Media Center

The Instructional Media Center (IMC), Marine Corps Combat Service Support Schools, Camp Johnson, North Carolina, has deployed an instructional resource web site to aid in the instruction of Marines. Our goal is to provide all Marine Corps instructors, curriculum developers, instructional systems designers, and

courseware creator's access to high-quality, professional media to train Marines better, *faster, smarter, and deadlier*. Although parts of our web page are still under construction, the media tools are fully functional and ready to be used.

The web site contains over 600 PowerPoint templates designed specifically for Marine Corps training and briefings; over 2000 current Combat Camera operational images; Marine Corps video; audio clips; Marine Corps clipart; animation; stock certificates; charts; and much more.

Our site is a work in progress and we sincerely appreciate feedback. If you have suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact me directly.

Visit the site for training media.....

www.lejeune.usmc.mil/mccsss/imc

Semper Fidelis.

VR/Debbie